United Nations E/2008/NGO/18

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
10 June 2008
English
Original: French

Substantive session of 2008
New York, 30 June-25 July 2008
Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda*
Annual ministerial review: Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development

Statement submitted by Droit à l'énergie-SOS futur, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2008/100.

08-37501 (E) 180608 180608

Statement

Summary of committee decisions

The committee of the international association Droit à l'énergie, meeting in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, on 12 May 2008:

- Condemns speculation in basic commodities, particularly energy products. The rising price of fuels, including biofuels, threatens millions of people living in the countries of the South. While citizens the world over protest against the increasingly unaffordable price of petrol and the destabilizing effect of heating costs on entire households, those living in the countries of the South, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, East Africa and South-East Asia, are threatened by food insecurity and the spread of diseases resulting from the lack of safe drinking water and energy.
- Urges all global, regional and national actors, in particular the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the European Union, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Group of Eight (G8) and others, to take concerted action and do everything in their power to stop speculation, regulate markets and ensure that people can feed themselves and live in decent conditions.
- Demands that humanitarian actors, both public and private (World Food Programme, non-governmental organizations, among others), should have the necessary resources to fulfil their mandates.
- Calls for economic partnership agreements to be replaced with development partnership agreements, which are the only way for the countries in question to begin to achieve economic and social empowerment.
- Calls on France, which will assume the Presidency of the European Union on 1 July 2008, to take all necessary measures, in conjunction with its partners, to resolve this situation which threatens the whole of humanity.